

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Abstract on page 31 of the specification as follows:

(Currently amended) The present invention relates to a gene coding for a copolyester-synthesizing enzyme, a microorganism which utilizes ~~said~~ the gene for the fermentative synthesis of a polyester, and a method of producing a polyester with the aid of ~~said~~ the microorganism. More particularly, the present invention relates to a gene which functions in a host organism and ~~is related to synthesize~~, by an enzyme, synthesizes a plastic-like polymer degradable under the action of microorganisms in the natural environment (the soil, river or sea); The present invention also, more particularly, relates to a transformant derived from ~~said~~ the host organism by transformation with ~~said~~ the gene and having an improved ability to fermentatively synthesize a plastic-like polymer, and a method of producing a copolyester with the aid of ~~said~~ the transformant.